Media Release

Suffolk County Legislature



OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER Suffolk County Legislator Robert Calarco, 7th L.D.

90 West Main Street, Suite 2N Patchogue, New York 11772

MEDIA Release March 17, 2014 Contact Information: Eva Rodriguez-Greguski (Office) 631-854-1400

Legislator Calarco Celebrates Girl Scout Week Recognizes Their Work on "Operation Cookie"

Patchogue, NY – Legislator Rob Calarco joined with Girl Scout Troop No. 641 of Medford to celebrate "Girl Scout Week" and to commend them for their work on Operation Cookie. The Girl Scouts celebrated their 102^{nd} anniversary as an organization on March 12 and is in the midst of their busy cookie-selling season. "Operation Cookie" is a sponsorship program that sends cookies to military men and women overseas and to veteran's organizations and hospitals here at home.

"I first learned of 'Operation Cookie' when I first became a legislator. I think it is a great idea to give the men and women who sacrifice so much for our country a little taste of home," said Legislator Rob Calarco. "Whether it's a box or a case, I encourage everyone to purchase a little extra to donate back to a good cause."

"The future of our community lies within the actions of our children," stated Patchogue Mayor Paul Pontieri. "These girls not only learn leadership skills through efforts like Operation Cookie, but they learn to give back to others and become an integral part of the community fabric."

"Sending cookies to our women and men in the military through Operation: Cookie is near and dear to our hearts," says Yvonne Grant, CEO and President of Girl Scouts of Suffolk County. "It is the generous support of Long Island businesses, community members, Girl Scout volunteers and Girl Scouts of all ages that enable this program to succeed."

Last year the Girl Scouts of Suffolk County donated more than 84,000 boxes of Thin Mints, Samoas, Do-Si-Dos and other favorites to Iraq, Afghanistan, the Red Sea, the Naval Hospital and Walter Reed Medical Center.



Pictured from left to right: Patchogue Mayor Paul Pontieri; Patchogue-Medford Library Director and host for the event, Lauren Nichols; Staff Sergeant Orbry Van Ellis, US Army Recruiter; Members from Troop No. 641; Technical Sergeant Jaclyn Duclos, US Air Force Recruiter; Staff Sergeant Jessica Barboza, US Army Recruiter; Suffolk County Legislator Rob Calarco.